

Attorney's Docket No.: 06618-914001

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement sheets of drawings includes changes to Figs. 1 and 3.

In Figure 1, we've labeled the figure "Prior Art".

In Figure 3, we've added "GCMS - 351".

Attachments following last page of this Amendment:

Replacement Sheet (2 pages)

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REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above referenced application are respectfully requested.

Figure 1 is amended herein to be labeled as prior art. Figure 2 is not prior art, in fact page 5 paragraph 17 shows that figure 2 defines an embodiment and not prior art.

Figure 3 is amended to include the GCMS therein. This has also been added to the specification, and should obviate the objection thereto.

The informality noted in claim 12 has been corrected.

Claims 2, 3, 9, 11, 21 and 22 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Hall. This contention is respectfully traversed. In addition, however, a new limitation has been added to claim 21 to further emphasize its patentable distinctions.

Claim 21 as presented defined a cathode material "forming a vacuum tight seal and having a connection for a vessel to be evacuated". The cathode material is a combined housing and cathode structure. Hall does not use a cathode material that forms a vacuum tight seal and has a connection for a vessel to be evacuated. In Hall, separate cathode plates 25 are located inside the envelope 14. Therefore, Hall does not meet the limitations of claim 21. The commas have been removed from

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claim 21 to further emphasize that the cathode material forms the vacuum tight seal and has a connection to the vessel.

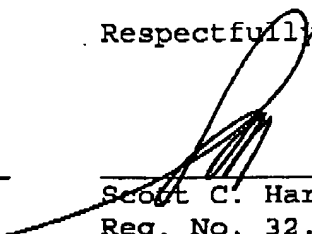
In addition, claim 21 has been amended to define that the posts extend into the cylindrical anode from both openings thereof. Hall does not show this, and this thus further obviates the rejection. Therefore, claim 21 should be allowable along with the claims which depend therefrom.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

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Applicant asks that all claims be allowed. It is believed  
no fee is due, however, please apply any other charges or  
credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 10/26/05  
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